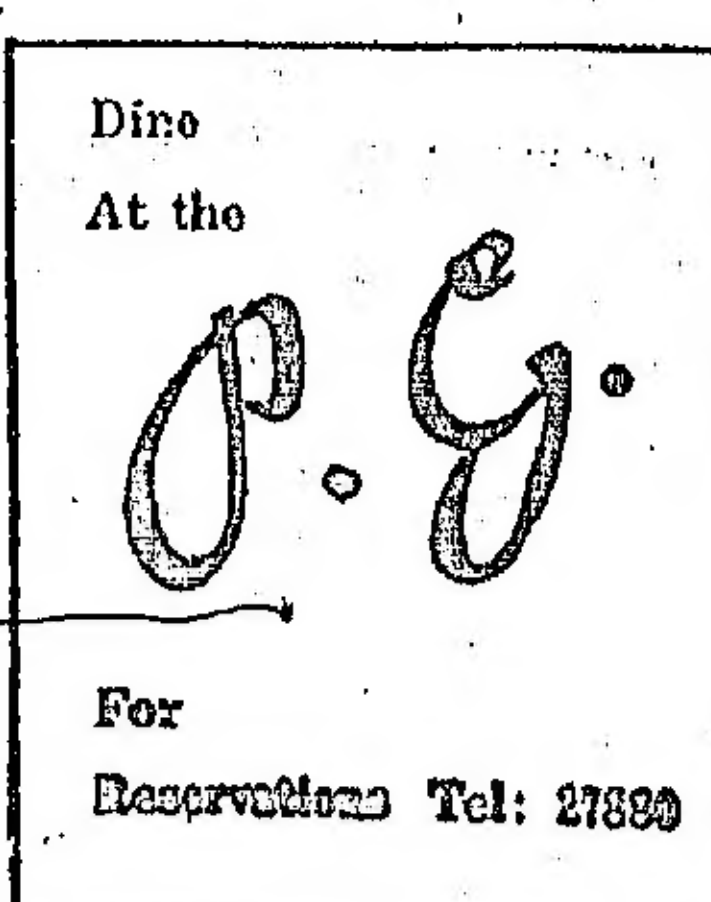


The Hongkong Telegraph



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BRITAIN AND 38TH PARALLEL Should Not Be Crossed Before Full Consultation In UN

COMMENT

Rubber will not decide the outcome of the trial of strength in the Far East brought about by Chinese intervention in Korea. Nor, for that matter, will trade as a whole.

The main factor is the feeling about it in the United States. It is this that gives policy the impetus it is now getting.

Next to this comes the factor of control. In a practical sense it is the most important of all. It is useless to pick on this port or that as the target of discontent.

If rubber for China or anybody else for that matter is to be banned or restricted, it can only effectively be done by international machinery, with the places of origin or the ports of shipment as the main barrier.

The principle of the strategic ban has been accepted by Hongkong as by many other countries. If it has to be extended to rubber as well as other strategic materials the precedent has been created.

It is not easy to make control absolutely trick-proof in a place like Hongkong. The Chinese trader is infinitely ingenious. But it would be futile if Macao, or Singapore, or Bangkok, or Calcutta were free to meet the market, whether for raw rubber or tyres.

Nor can the obvious advantages of a free, competitive market be abandoned without risk of defeat unless regulation is all-embracing and legislates for prices as well as all other pertinent considerations.

Up till less than two years ago rubber was depressed to a point far below all other world commodities. Effective controls must provide for that grievance too.

Nor does the issue relate solely to China. Re-armament is the main overall consideration. That justifies the broadest view and should eliminate sour glances toward this port or that, or reluctance to co-operate.

Prime Minister On Hope Of Settlement In Far East

London, Feb. 12.

The Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, told the House of Commons this afternoon that in the British view the 38th Parallel ought not to be crossed again until there has been full consultation with the United Nations and in particular those States which have provided forces.

Close on the heels of this statement came a Washington report from Reuter's correspondent Paul Scott Rankine that the United States agreed with Britain that there should be consultation between the United Nations before their forces were sent across the 38th Parallel in force.

Rankine reported that Washington officials said there had been talks on this subject for some time between the two countries. These talks were continuing.

Mr Attlee's statement in the Commons came during a one-day foreign affairs debate.

Mr Attlee said that the position in Korea was much more stable and there were possibilities for negotiation.

The Chinese, he added, would be wise to negotiate now.

Mr Attlee said that there was no break in the continuity of

Government policy—support of the United Nations and acceptance of the obligations of membership.

Sham peace propaganda represented Britain's rearmament as if all nations had been disarmed and then, suddenly one or two had decided to re-arm.

The fact was that Russia never disarmed after the last war.

Mr Attlee said that he would concentrate on Germany and the Far East but stability and defence of the Middle East was an essential part of Britain's foreign policy.

CHINA'S ACTIONS

Korea was a direct challenge to the United Nations.

He was cheered as he added, "It is really no good making little legal points about this matter."

Britain had had great experience in Asiatic affairs.

"Without condoning in any way the action of the Chinese in Korea we understood some of their reasons, however misguided they might appear.

"Equally we understood and sympathised with our friends in the United States."

Britain did not think that a motion by the United Nations condemning China as an aggressor and calling for sanctions was likely to achieve the object in view.

Britain had no doubt that China had committed aggression but considered that there should be no question of applying sanctions until it was made clear that there was no further hope of achieving a peaceful settlement.

"Today the position in Korea is much more stable", he said.

WISE TO NEGOTIATE

"There is a good position there for negotiations and I think the Chinese might be wise to negotiate.

"In our view the 38th Parallel ought not to be crossed again until there has been full consultation with the United Nations and in particular with those member states contributing forces in Korea.

"The 38th Parallel is in no sense a military line."

Mr Attlee hoped that there might be a settlement with China, eventual admission of China into the United Nations, the ending of aggression and a settlement in the Far East.

"That is what we must all work for," he added.

Turning to Europe Mr Attlee said that he did not think it would be wise at present to send

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 4)

PREMIER'S MESSAGE FOR THE WORLD

London, Feb. 12.

The Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee's review of the British foreign policy in the House of Commons debate today contained three major messages for the world, according to diplomatic observers here.

They were:

(1) To the United States a definite statement of Britain's considered view that it would now be wise for United Nations forces in Korea to halt roughly corresponding to the 38th Parallel, the former boundary between North and South Korea.

(2) To Communist China an invitation to take advantage of the military situation in the light of the above decision to reconsider its attitude to a negotiated settlement with the United Nations.

(3) To Russia a statement of Britain's readiness to discuss German disarmament in four-Power talks provided it is one in the wider context of the disarmament of the Soviet Union's ex-enemy satellites in Eastern Europe.

Mr Attlee was speaking after a morning Cabinet meeting which was understood to have made policy decisions on the three Western Powers' replies to the Soviet note on four-Power talks and the British attitude to the crossing of the 38th Parallel.

In today's debate Mr Attlee and Mr Anthony Eden, former Foreign Secretary and now Deputy Conservative opposition leader, revealed a surprising measure of agreement on major foreign policy aims.

They agreed that the present military situation in Korea offered the hope of a renewed attempt at a negotiated settlement with Communist China.

Mr Attlee made it clear that his Government would continue to work for such a settlement and oppose any hasty attempt to apply economic sanctions against China.—Reuter.

NO PROTEST MADE TO HK

Washington, Feb. 12.

The State Department spokesman, Michael McDermott, denied today that the United States has complained to the United Kingdom about the shipment of goods from Hongkong to Communist China.

Mr McDermott issued the denial in response to reporters' queries.

No such demand had been made either to the United Kingdom or to the Crown colony of Hongkong.

Mr McDermott added that representatives of the British Embassy and Macao and United States officials for some time have been discussing the effects on Hongkong and Macao of requirements under the administration of controls on economic relations between the United States and Communist China.—United Press.

U.S. Army Plans For Europe

Washington, Feb. 12.

Some Senators here said today that they thought the military planners here required 70,000 United States troops for Europe this year.

The Senators, who asked that their names be withheld, based their opinion on an impression gained from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Omar Bradley, and others that Congressional approval of ground force aid for Europe would involve sending about four additional divisions.

The Senators thought these divisions, plus two divisions on occupation duty in Germany, would bring to about 100,000 the number of American troops available for the North Atlantic Army commanded by General Dwight Eisenhower.—Reuter.

Passengers On "Chusan" Allowed Off

Penang, Feb. 12.

The influenza aboard the Peninsula and Oriental passenger liner, Chusan, has apparently been brought under control.

Continuing her voyage to Far Eastern ports, the Chusan reached here today and her passengers were permitted to land without quarantine. The liner, with 610 passengers on board, left London on Jan. 23 at the peak of Britain's influenza epidemic.

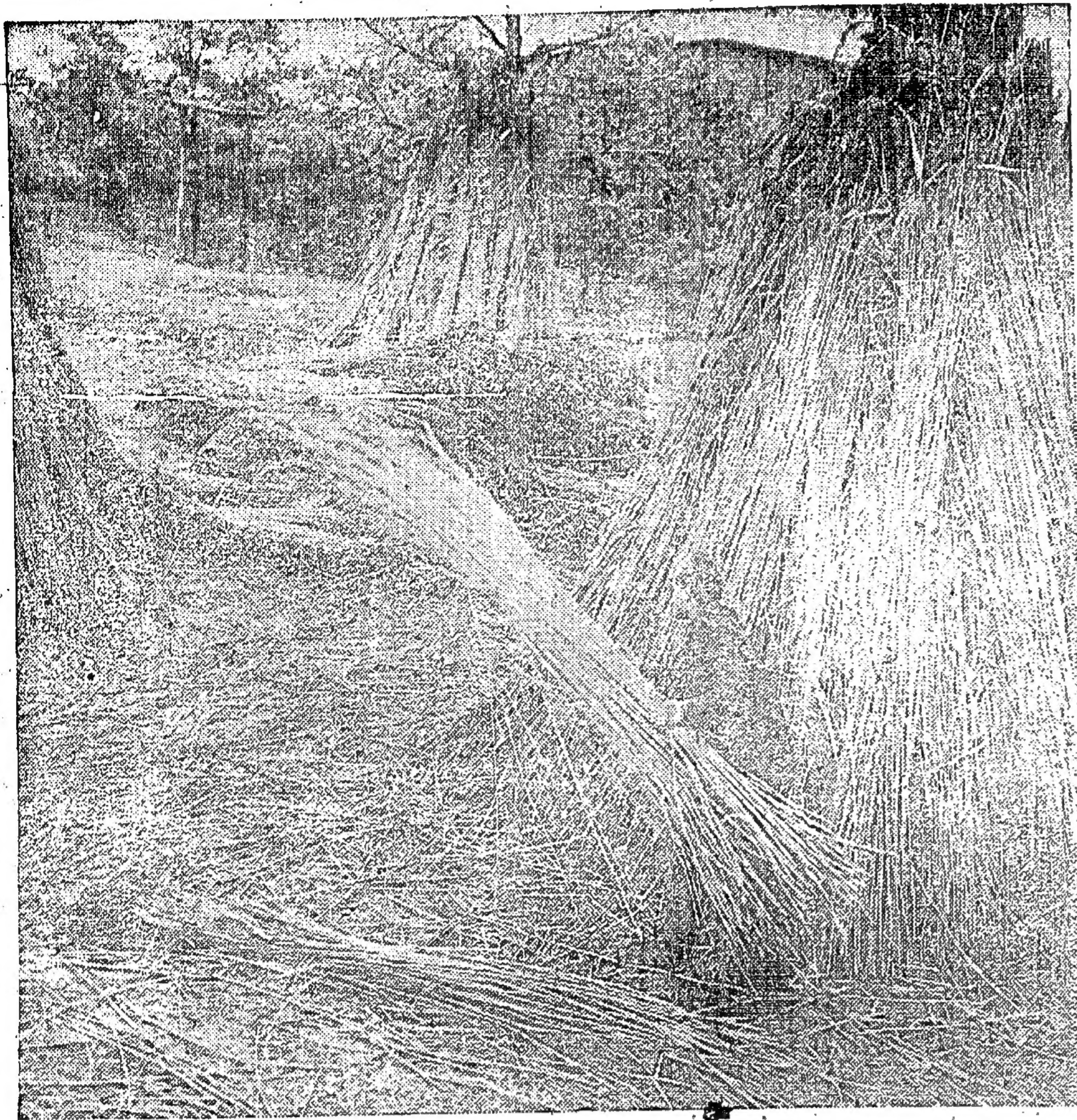
On the ship's arrival at Bombay on Feb. 6, 12 passengers had the flu. The Bombay Port authorities quarantined 354 disembarking passengers aboard another ship in the harbour.

At Colombo on Friday the port health authorities allowed disembarking passengers ashore but restricted visitors to the ship to those with official business.—Reuter.

Princess Home

London, Feb. 12.

Princess Elizabeth returned home today by air from Malta, where she has been on holiday with her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh.—Reuter.



TAKING IN THE HARVEST—A German mat factory workman piles bundles of reeds in pyramids on the open air storage ground for a thorough air drying near Berlin. The cut reeds have been sorted out on the ice after cutting, the longest and thickest being tied together in bundles. The reeds are then woven into mats which have a variety of uses.

SCIENTIST SAYS FLYING SAUCERS WERE BALLOONS

New York, Feb. 12.

Flying saucers are real but are only huge plastic balloons used in cosmic ray studies, according to Dr U. Liddle, of the Nuclear Physics branch of the United States Office of Naval Research.

Dr Liddle tells in the current issue of the American magazine, Look, how the balloons—called "skyhooks"—used by his branch could be mistaken for flying saucers.

The magazine calls his analysis "the first Government disclosure of what is considered to be the real cause" of the saucer stories. The balloons, which carry instruments to record what happens when cosmic rays hit atoms in the earth's atmosphere, can rise to a height of about 100,000 feet.

Winds sometimes sweep them along at 200-miles per hour. At

gust the slanting rays of the sun light up the under-side of the balloons, giving them a saucer-like appearance.

Dr Liddle says the use of balloons for gathering information about atoms was kept secret when the project began. "Now there is no longer any need for secrecy on a scientific basis, and certainly there is no need to keep the public in the dark about what the flying saucers are," he added.

The balloons, called skyhooks, were first used in 1947, and it was then that the "flying saucers" reports began. There were more balloons used in the

next two years and more saucers seen. Fewer balloons were sent up in 1950 and fewer saucer reports.

JUST IMAGINATION

Dr Liddle says that a photograph of a balloon at a height of 75,000 feet, taken by a telescope, fits the descriptions of the flying saucers. People watching the balloon from the ground see only its base, usually illuminated by the sun's rays. Those with vivid imaginations could easily imagine this as "the glow of an atomic engine," he adds.

"Even seasoned airmen have no way of estimating the size and speed of the object they see. To peg size and speed, the mind must know the nature of the object," says Dr Liddle.

The magazine says Dr Liddle and his associates studied 2,000 reports of flying saucers, eliminating those "seeming to be visions of crack-pots or psychopaths," or "clearly the result of inaccurate vision."

One report of "little men" found inside the wreckage of a saucer near Mexico City turned out to be the unsubstantiated story of a traveller. "This left a solid base of reports from aeroplane pilots, scientific observers and reliable laymen which could not be pushed aside."

IN CLUSTERS

After a thorough investigation, Dr Liddle concluded that there was not a single reliable report which could not be attributed to the cosmic balloons.

The magazine quotes Dr Liddle as saying that Captain Thomas F. Maniell, an Air Force pilot found dead in his crashed plane after radioing that he was pursuing a strange sky object, was chasing a balloon of the skyhook type.

Reports of squadrons of flying discs were explained in the article as clusters of 20 or 30 balloons, used sometimes in

HOUSE DEBATE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

(Continued from Page 1)

more than observers to the Paris conference on a European army.

There was a great deal of evidence to show that the mass of the German people after the experiences they had gone through were reluctant to engage in military service.

GERMAN DANGER

If they could get a genuine settlement with Russia, German rearmament would fall into perspective.

"If we cannot get this agreement we have to consider the defence of the West and that includes the defence of Western Germany," he said.

Mr Attlee said that the building of forces of the democratic States should precede the creation of German forces.

"I agree that there is the danger of the emergence again of some kind of force that made Germany a menace. But you do not get rid of that by leaving a vacuum," he said.

The answer is that there should be a democratic force democratically controlled in Germany.

Referring to the proposed four-Power meeting, Mr Attlee said that it was useless to discuss the question of German rearmament in isolation.

The agenda for a conference must correspond with the realities of the world situation.

Britain would like to see the burden of rearmament lifted from the Russian people as well as those of the West.

"We shall do our utmost to seek a meeting and to secure agreement," Mr Attlee concluded.

TORY VIEWS

Speaking in the same debate, Mr Anthony Eden, deputy leader of the Conservative Party, declared that the illness of the Foreign Secretary, Mr Ernest Bevin, had left Britain sorely lacking in guidance at a time when direction and explanation were both equally necessary.

Mr Eden said that there was much confusion in the public mind about the international situation and also about certain aspects at least of the Government's policy to deal with it.

In the absence of Mr Bevin (who is recovering from pneumonia) a multitude of unofficial counsellors interpreting what had hitherto been the declared policy of the Government had given an impression of order, counter-order and disorder.

"As we look at the problems of the West, Germany remains the dominant theme," Mr Eden said.

Answers in the House of Commons last week on German rearmament by Mr Bevin's Parliamentary Under-Secretary (Mr Ernest Davies) had created some uncertainty abroad as well as at home as to what the Government's policy really was.

Mr Eden demanded to be told if the Government still adhered to the decision taken in Brussels in December to authorise the inclusion of German armed contingents in the Atlantic Pact forces.

TALKS WITH RUSSIA

Parallel with this there was the question of talks with Russia in which Germany would certainly be a main theme.

Mr Eden said it had always seemed to him that they ought to try to draw up an agenda for this meeting with the Soviets which was wider than Germany alone.

Though there was much that was obscure in the last Russian answer, they had not refused to draw up an agenda.

place of one huge skyhook balloon.

Dr Liddle checked with other Government agencies and was satisfied that "no other research or experimental project has utilised anything roughly resembling a flying saucer."—Reuter.

"I think we ought to proceed with this now," Mr Eden said.

Russia had in Eastern Germany forces overwhelmingly superior to the West and not content with that Russia had taken the initiative in German rearmament.

Rumania, Bulgaria and Hungary had increased their forces beyond the peace treaty limits and were expanding their armaments very rapidly.

In any four-Power discussions, one of the first requirements of the West should be that the armaments of the enemy satellites should be reduced.

Mr Eden thought that the increased threat these forces constituted to Yugoslavia was a subject for consultation between Britain, France and the United States and the Commonwealth Powers.

If the West was not prepared to allow Yugoslavia to be made the victim of aggression, then it should express itself jointly and clearly on this topic soon as a contribution to peace.

They had to make up their minds whether they wanted to do everything in their power to make it possible for Germany—if she be willing—to play her part in European affairs on fair and honourable terms.

"Unless Germany plays her part in all spheres of co-operation there cannot ever be an enduring sense of security for Europe or for the German people," Mr Eden said.

"The sooner we take the necessary steps to give Germany a sense of equal status the better."

THE FAR EAST

Turning to the Far East, Mr Eden said that the duty of the United Nations was clearly to hold on until such time as the aggressors were willing to negotiate on a basis which took account of international obligations.

Formosa was an issue which must form part of a general peace settlement in the Far East. This was part of the question of a treaty with Japan.

It was essential that the terms of a Japanese peace treaty should be agreed and jointly signed by the Commonwealth nations and the Allies who fought against Japan from the beginning.

Mr Eden suggested that the heads of countries or the Foreign Ministers should meet at regular intervals for the express purpose of giving political direction for military preparation.

While the work of military co-ordination acted reasonably well on a regional basis, political direction was lacking. Germany was an example.

"The diplomacy of the peace-makers must have the backing of arms. I cannot see any escape from that," Mr Eden concluded.

"I do not think that we shall get very far if we only protest our own lack of strength and hope thereby to stay Moscow's obvious expansion spirit."—Reuter.

Toys For Europe

Philadelphia, Feb. 12.

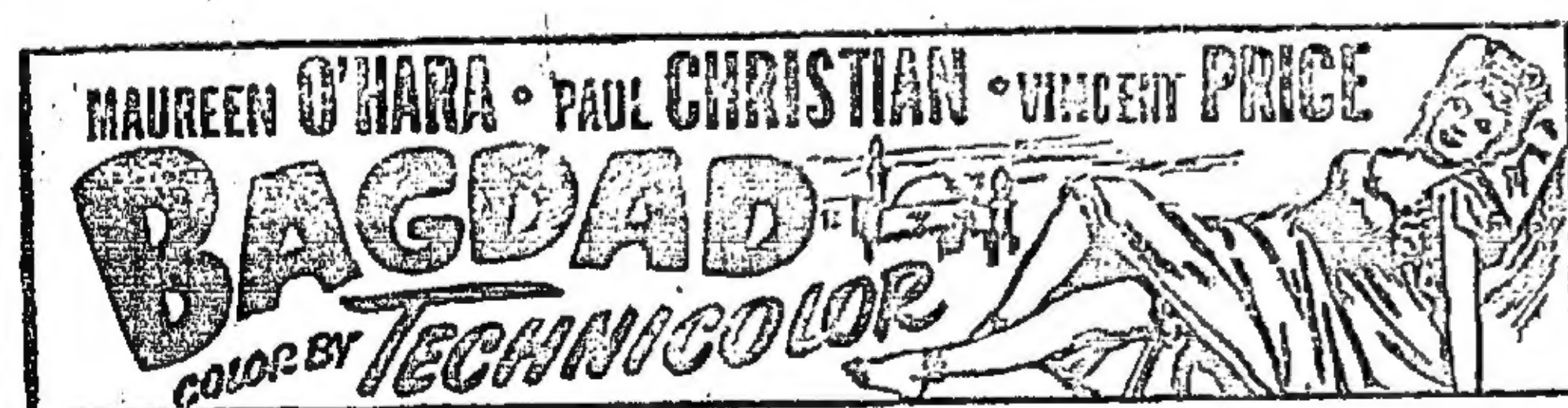
The first cargo of "tide of toys" collected by the American Legion for European Children is being loaded today aboard the Danish vessel, Jessie Maersk.

The Philippine Foreign Secretary, Carlos P. Romulo, speaking at dockside ceremonies, described these gifts from American children as "living example of democracy at work. This programme will go a long way toward the goal of better human relations throughout the world."—United Press.

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WATCH FOR THE OPENING DATE

JAPANESE PEACE SETTLEMENT

Britain In Agreement With Policy Of Rearming Ex-Enemy

Australia And New Zealand's Desire For Guarantees

London, Feb. 12. Official sources said today that Britain agreed with the United States policy of pressing ahead with the Japanese peace settlement and of rearming Japan as soon as possible once the peace treaty is concluded.

Officials also said the British Government was not sending a representative from London to participate in the forthcoming discussions between America's John Foster Dulles and the Australian and New Zealand Foreign Ministers on the question of the Japanese peace treaty.

The Foreign Office already has a representative on the British High Commissioner's staff at Canberra, and he would probably attend the conferences.

These officials added: "But he would not be expected to take part in the discussions. The question of the New Zealand and Australian attitudes towards the United States proposals for the Japanese treaty is one for them to thrash out themselves."

It is realised in London that neither Australia nor New Zealand are in complete agreement with the American ideas on Japanese rearmament.

Both Commonwealth members made it clear at the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference in London that if all restrictions were lifted from the Japanese armaments industry and recruitment for war operations, Australia and New Zealand would seek "safeguards" against possible Japanese aggression.

It is understood that Australia and New Zealand would agree to a limited revival of Japan's cement industry and the recruitment of "combat units" of the Japanese army, similar to those suggested for Germany, but without a general staff.

Officials said, "the Australian and New Zealand positions are fully appreciated. It is a matter for them to discuss with Mr Dulles. In the British view there is no parallel between Japan and Germany."

Australian quarters said Australia would probably agree to the rearmament of Japan within the structure of a Pacific pact framed to ensure the security of the South Pacific.

PRELIMINARY TALKS

Sydney, Feb. 12.

The External Affairs Ministers of Australia and New Zealand, Mr Percy Spender and Mr Frederick Doig, held preliminary talks here today on a Japanese peace treaty.

They will be joined on Wednesday by Mr John Foster Dulles, President Truman's special envoy for the Japanese peace treaty discussions, who is now on his way from Tokyo.

New Zealand's Foreign Affairs Minister arrived here yesterday. Both he and Mr Spender are keeping silent on the discussions, apart from generalities.—Reuter.

PACIFIC PACT

New York, Feb. 12.

The Times editorial today, referring to the Dulles mission and Friday's statement of Assistant Secretary of State Dean Rusk, discusses the possibilities of a Pacific defence agreement.

The Times said: "It is apparent that the Japanese, along with the United States, are thinking in terms of collective security in the Pacific. Pacific nations, especially the Philippines, Australia and New Zealand, certainly do not think of a Pacific peace treaty as a bilateral agreement between Japan and the United States. They expect to participate, as indeed they should to the very fullest. But that also should mean participation in the structures for Pacific safety that are set up of which Japan must necessarily be a part."

"Thus, the need to establish this framework in respect to Japan should have the effect of bringing the Pacific States together rather than driving them apart. Differing points of view will have to be brought together before any pact can take shape."

"Differences in some cases are so great that an inclusive arrangement at any time in the near future is unlikely. Some Pacific nations, for example, would regard it as only logical to include in any anti-Communist line-up the largest anti-Communist army in the world, that of the Chinese Nationalists under Chiang Kai-shek. Such inclusion, however, would be intolerable to India and probably Burma."

"Mr Dulles is apparently on firm ground with most of his proposals in respect to Japan. How far he can influence a meeting of minds in the Pacific in respect to the whole problem is still to be seen."

The Herald-Tribune's editorial, captioned "Security for Japan," said: "In heading his mission to Japan Mr Dulles indicated that tentative agreements were reached for safeguarding Japan from attack in the period following a peace treaty. Such an arrangement was one of the chief objectives of Mr Dulles' visit, and the fact that it won the wholehearted accord of the Japanese Government is a hopeful omen for settlement of other matters...."

SELF-HELP

"Japan will not become, in Mr Dulles' phrase, a 'vacuum of power' opening the way for new aggressions and conflicts. The

Communist Raids On Schools

Singapore, Feb. 12.

A dozen Communist youths today raided two schools here and collected identity cards from students in their drive to discredit the country's national registration system.

Both schools were in a compound about five miles from Singapore's business area.—Reuter.

words of Mr Dulles' statement necessarily are guarded but the main outlines of agreement are clear. American bases in the Japanese islands will help, in conjunction with our wide Pacific defence line while our troops provide a cover behind which Japan can have an opportunity to recover means of self-protection. As with countries of the Atlantic Pact, the principles of self-help and mutual obligations will underline our aid....

"A second form of security—is also high on the list of Mr Dulles' objectives. Promises of any large amount of American aid are deliberately discouraged in the present statement but the assurance is held out that the United States will help Japan restore health and vigour to its economy."

The paper said problems such as Japanese reparations and economic restrictions will have to be thrashed out in Mr Dulles' conferences with the Governments of Australia, New Zealand and the Philippines.—United Press.

Republican Leader Widens The Split

New York, Feb. 12.

The Governor of New York, Mr Thomas Dewey, widened the foreign policy split in the Republican Party tonight by demanding that the United States draw a stand-and-fight line around Yugoslavia, Spain and the Middle East.

"Let us stop handing armies and nations over to the Russians," the Republican leader told a Lincoln Day dinner audience. "The only way to stop it is to draw a line."

This is no time for us to follow a counsel of despair. It is a time to be strong. It is a time for boldness."

Mr Dewey said all the world knew the United States would defend the North Atlantic Pact nations and as a result no attack had been made on one of those nations.

"Now let us go the rest of the way. We should stay where we stand as to the rest of the world. Let there be no more blundering into little wars or big wars."

Mr Dewey demanded that Greece and Turkey be brought into the North Atlantic Pact at once and the United States then tell the world it would go to war to save Iran, Spain and Yugoslavia.

"Spain has 22 divisions,

Yugoslavia 30. I want them on our side... there is strong reason to believe Russia intends to move on Yugoslavia this year... if Yugoslavia should fall, how long then would Greece remain free?"

"With Greece and the Dardanelles gone, the Eastern Mediterranean would become a Red sea and our bombing bases there for the defence of America would be gone."

The Middle East was a vacuum now and "it is time we brought the full power of Islam more securely to our side."

Mr Dewey urged reinforcement of United States troops in Europe immediately "and once and for all this business of waiting for wars and crises and then frantically improvising"—United Press.



YOUNG COUPLE—Very serious about their part in a London wedding are Hamilton Goulding, dressed in a smart page's uniform, and fur-coated Monica Bower, six, who was bridesmaid and sister of the bride. The ceremony was held at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Chelsea.

Titoism Appears In West Germany

Frankfurt, Feb. 12.

Dissatisfied West German Communists will form a new independent Workers Party this spring modelled along the lines of Marshal Tito's defiance of the Kremlin, it was announced today.

The announcement that a new party would be formed was made by a group of 100 dissident Communists who have been holding a two-day preparatory meeting at Ratingen, near Dusseldorf, in the British Zone of Germany. The announcement said the party would be formed in April.

The Party leader will be Josef Schappe, former assistant editor of Das Freie Volk, British Zone Communist Party newspaper. Communist dissidents claim their movement is already organized in 50 cities and many smaller communities in Germany. Schappe was suspended from the German Communist Party on Dec. 9, 1949. He was accused of associating with the "Titoist clique."

The announcement said dissident Communists considered the Soviet system more dangerous to the world than capitalism because of the "monopolistic state bureaucracy" of Moscow.

The new movement is known to maintain contact with the Yugoslav Communists in Belgrade.—United Press.

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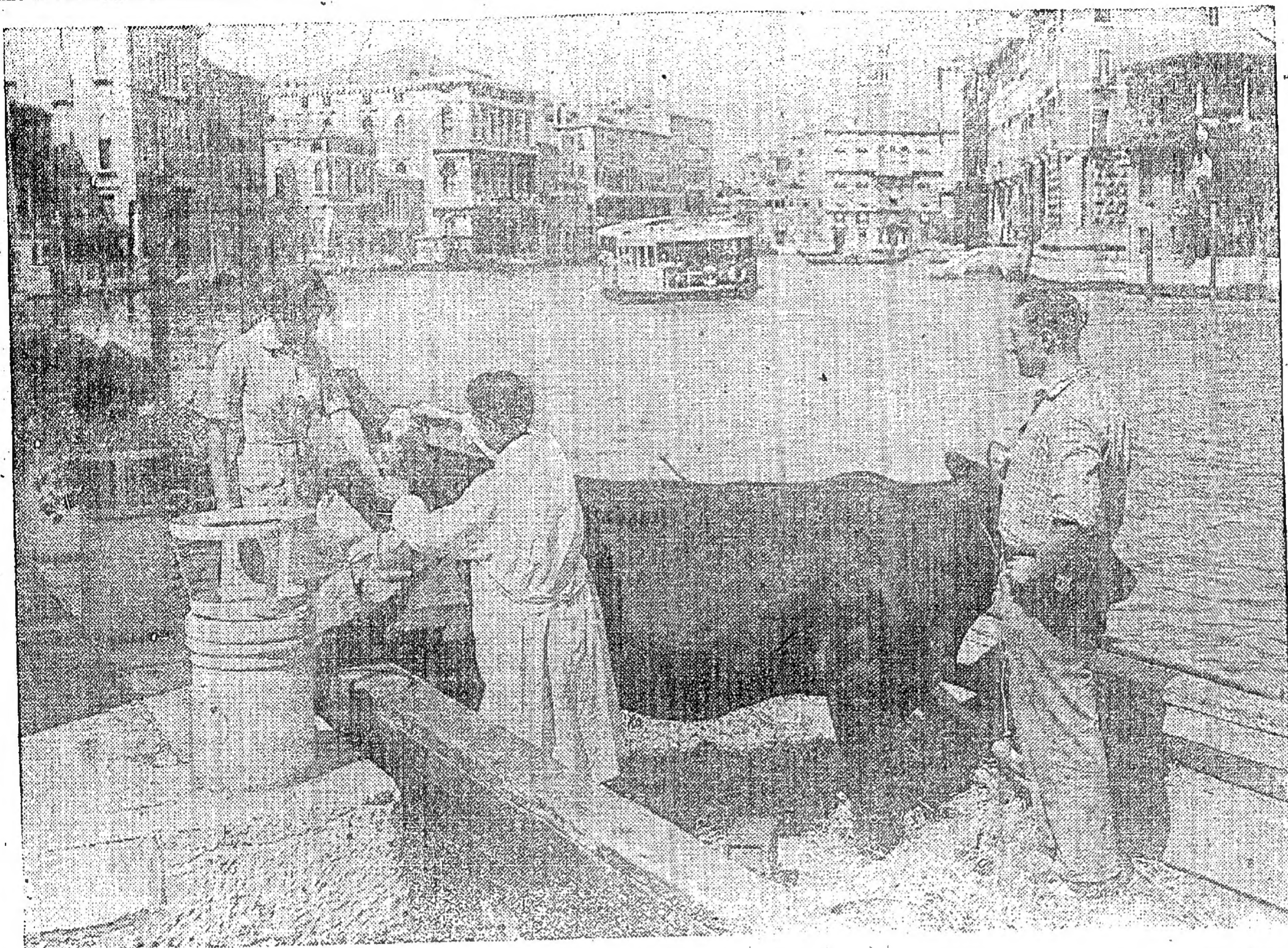


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ON THE MILK ROUTE—Door to door milk service along the famous Grand Canal, in Venice, is nothing new. The Venetian milkman floats his source of supply along the waterway and delivers the fresh milk to local housewives as it is needed.

Truman Asks Million Tons Of Grain For Indian Famine Relief

Washington, Feb. 12.

President Truman asked Congress today to take immediate steps to appropriate funds for 1,000,000 tons of grain for Indian famine relief.

In a message to the House and Senate, the President recommended that Congress authorize the full amount—enough money to buy 2,000,000 tons of grain—but appropriate funds now for only the first 1,000,000. He asked that the actual appropriation of funds for the balance be deferred until the situation has been further clarified.

The total programme will cost an estimated \$180,000,000. While the President mentioned no specific dollar figure, the first

1,000,000-ton shipment will cost about \$90,000,000.

The President also requested the Economic Co-operation Administration and the United States mission to India to observe the distribution of the grain and to assist in carrying out the aid programme; also to examine the possibilities of further aid from the United States.

The President told Congress the United States Government would expect India to deposit in a special account in local currency the equivalent of the proceeds from the sale of grain supplied by the United States on a grant basis. This account would be used for the development and improvement of Indian economy.

NOT A PRECEDENT

Mr Truman said: "The purpose of this programme is to meet the current emergency in India and to stimulate measures to forestall such crisis in the future. It does not constitute a precedent for continuing to provide food to India on a grant basis or for providing similar aid for other countries."

The President strongly urged Congress to take immediate steps to put the assistance programme into effect. He said: "It is within our means. Human lives depend upon our taking prompt action. Shipments must begin by April if the food is to reach India in time to meet the present emergency."

Administration officials who worked over the weekend collecting data to back up Mr Truman's request to Congress said Congressional leaders had advanced some very pertinent questions which deserved to be answered. Among these were:

1. Is there grain available in Pakistan which India could buy

Anti-Occupation Paper Arrests

Tokyo, Feb. 12.

The Kyodo News Agency reported today that the police have arrested 561 persons in connection with printing and distributing the anti-occupation newspaper, "Voice of Peace."

This paper became the mouthpiece of the Japanese Communist Party after the official Red organ, "Akahata" was banned last July.

Meanwhile, attorney general Takeo Ohashi said the government is cautiously studying measures to outlaw the Communist Party. He told the Lower House Budget Committee that Red activities are generally assuming a violent militaristic tinge. —United Press.

if it were not for the trade war between these two countries?

2. Why should the United States give India this wheat when the most the Indians have asked for is "extended credit" to purchase it?

3. Have American agricultural officials in India satisfied themselves there is a real necessity for this grain?

The State Department is confident it can answer all of these questions.

The acting chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee said hearings on the President's proposal would start "as soon as possible," probably next week. He said the Committee was "generally receptive" to the idea but there might be disagreement on the "mechanics" of handling. The chairman, Representative Richards, indicated that the committee would take a sharp look at what Britain is doing and how Pakistan regards the situation.

In view of Mr Jawaharlal Nehru's stand on the Korean crisis, it was indicated some Committee members would want to explore the possibilities of handing out the wheat directly by means of an independent agency rather than through the Indian Government. —United Press.

Mr Perkins On Survey In Yugoslavia

Belgrade, Feb. 12

The US Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, Mr George Perkins, arrived here by air today from Vienna for talks with Marshal Tito and his Foreign Minister, M. Edward Kardelj.

Asked at the airport whether he thought the Cominform threat to Yugoslavia should be placed on a possible four-power talk agenda, he replied: "Any realistic fact in the world position today should be, and this is one."

Also asked whether he was going to discuss arms aid to Yugoslavia, Mr Perkins replied: "I am just a tourist here."

Mr Perkins is here as part of a survey of the territory he deals with, with no specific end in view, an American Embassy spokesman said today.

Diplomatic observers assume, however, that Mr Perkins will discuss with Yugoslav leaders their country's position in case of a Russian attack in the coming year or later and what the West will do about it.

Mr Perkins, who is the first US Assistant Secretary of State to visit this country since the war, will continue by air to Rome on Wednesday. —Reuter.

E.C.A. TALKS AT LAHORE

Washington, Feb. 12.

The State Department announced today the appointment of United States representatives to attend a series of three meetings under the U.N. Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East at Lahore, Pakistan, beginning on February 14.

Merrill Gay of the Department's bureau of Far Eastern affairs with the rank of Minister will attend the seventh session of the ECAFE and the third session of the Committee on industry and trade.

P. Sweeney, economic officer in the U.S. Consulate in Calcutta, will be representative to the third session of the sub-committee on iron and steel. They will be accompanied by seven advisers. —United Press.

US Troops Deceived By Reds

Tokyo, Feb. 12.

Chinese Communist troops north of Hoengsong, on the blazing central front, today used white flags and handshakes to deceive American tank men and infantry before attacking them.

Sixty Chinese Communists, waving white flags and handkerchiefs halted, an American contact patrol, their leader saying: "Friends" in English and shaking hands with an American lieutenant, a GI reported.

The American lieutenant told the Chinese leader to get his men to lay down their arms and an argument followed.

An American private said that one of the Communists "shook hands with one of my buddies and dropped a grenade behind him. Then all hell broke loose in a point-blank mess."

The American lieutenant was killed by the man who shook his hand.

Tanks in the patrol battered down and opened fire with machine-guns while American infantry fought their way back under the fire of burp guns.

One American private said that he and two friends lay covered in broken ice and water to avoid the death-trap. One Chinese Communist walked up to him, nudged him with a foot and walked off, thinking that he was dead.

"When we got back to the tanks our boots were frozen to our feet and our clothes to our bodies," he said.

Still shivering and grouped around a stove in a medical clearing station, the men described the "swarms" of Chinese like flies pouring out of the mountains around us after the fight started.

The commander of the tank platoon said: "They were Chinese Communists, all right, some with their hands up and some carrying their weapons but waving white flags."

"It did not look right somehow so I told my tanks to button up. After a grenade went off we gave them hell."

The commander ordered his tanks to back up after two bazooka shells burst on the front armour plate of his own tank.

Trying to avoid running over a GI lying in the road, the lead tank turned over into a helpless position with its thin underbelly exposed to Communist bazooka fire. The tank crew escaped.

Infantrymen partly sheltered by the wrecked tank beat off "bugle-blowing, whistle-blowing, drum-beating" Chinese Communists long enough to get across a stream, where the tanks set up defensive positions and poured high explosives into the attacking Communists, later withdrawing. —Reuter.

Gurkhas Put Up The Hundred

Singapore, Feb. 12.

The 1/10th Gurkha Rifles claimed their 100th guerilla killed in Malaya when they shot four in the Bentong area on Feb. 5, the Army authorities in Malaya announced today.

In completing this total, the battalion lost only one Gurkha killed in action. They have been in operations since the Malayan emergency began in June, 1948.

A guerilla with a price of \$14,000 on his head was killed this morning by the security forces. He was 30-year-old Ng Kim-hong, the Communist Party District Committee Secretary in the Sakai area of Johore. —Reuter.

NOTICE

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HOME ECONOMY: MILITARY BASIS

Britain May Pay U.S. With Information Instead Of Dollars

Produce Only The Bare Minimum Of Armaments In UK

London, Feb. 12.

As Britain prepared to shift its Socialist economy from a civilian to a military basis, there were forecasts among defence experts today that Britain would pay the United States with information instead of dollars for the bulk of weapons required for modern warfare.

The argument was that production of enough atomic weapons, guided missiles, electronic instruments and chemicals would overtax Britain's manpower resources and drain the Exchequer.

As an alternative, it was suggested that Britain should aim to produce only the bare minimum armaments in the United Kingdom and obtain the bulk elsewhere.

The sudden speeding up was said to have reduced previous hopes of making Australia an arsenal for the British Commonwealth, leaving the United States the only feasible ground for the development of new weapons.

The British government was said to have put this scheme of ideas for export into operation some months ago with the establishment of a committee of experts to find which discoveries of British research would yield the best returns in barter with the United States.

The committee's recommendations were kept secret, but there

were indications they concerned mainly guided anti-aircraft missiles, non-poisonous gases, high-speed turbines and improved equipment, including some for underwater. In return for data on these new developments Britain would expect to receive atomic weapons and supplies of orthodox weapons and other equipment.

Already there was said to be consultations between the United States and Britain in several sections of the British armament industry including standardisation of tools required for the industry.

Authoritative sources commented that with the economic difficulties of Britain rearmament it was certain both countries would obtain "solid benefits" from such a plan.—United Press.

Hush-Hush Resolution On Kashmir

Lake Success, Feb. 12.

The United States and British delegation today continued to work in complete secrecy on the Kashmir resolution to be presented to the United Nations Security Council, while informed quarters said that a new idea was emerging for solution of the long deadlock over how the disputed area could be demilitarised.

A spokesman for both delegations refused official comment beyond stating that no final text had yet been agreed. The delegations hope to produce it on Wednesday so that the Security Council will be able to meet on Thursday or Friday.

Informants said the resolution, which is expected to be couched in rather general terms, would centre on the problem of demilitarisation of Jammu and Kashmir as prerequisite for holding of the plebiscite recommended by the Security Council.—United Press.

Cease-Fire Committee Completed

Lake Success, Feb. 12.

Senor Luis Padilla Nervo of Mexico today accepted the appointment as third member of the United Nations "Good Offices" Committee that will make a new attempt to arrange a Korean peace settlement with the Chinese Communists.

The President of the General Assembly, Mr. Nasrollah Entezam, head of the mediation team, telephoned word of Senor Nervo's acceptance from Washington, where Mr. Entezam is attending the Iranian celebrations in honour of the marriage of the Shah of Iran.

The third member of the trio is Mr. Sven Grafstrom, the Swedish delegate to the United Nations.

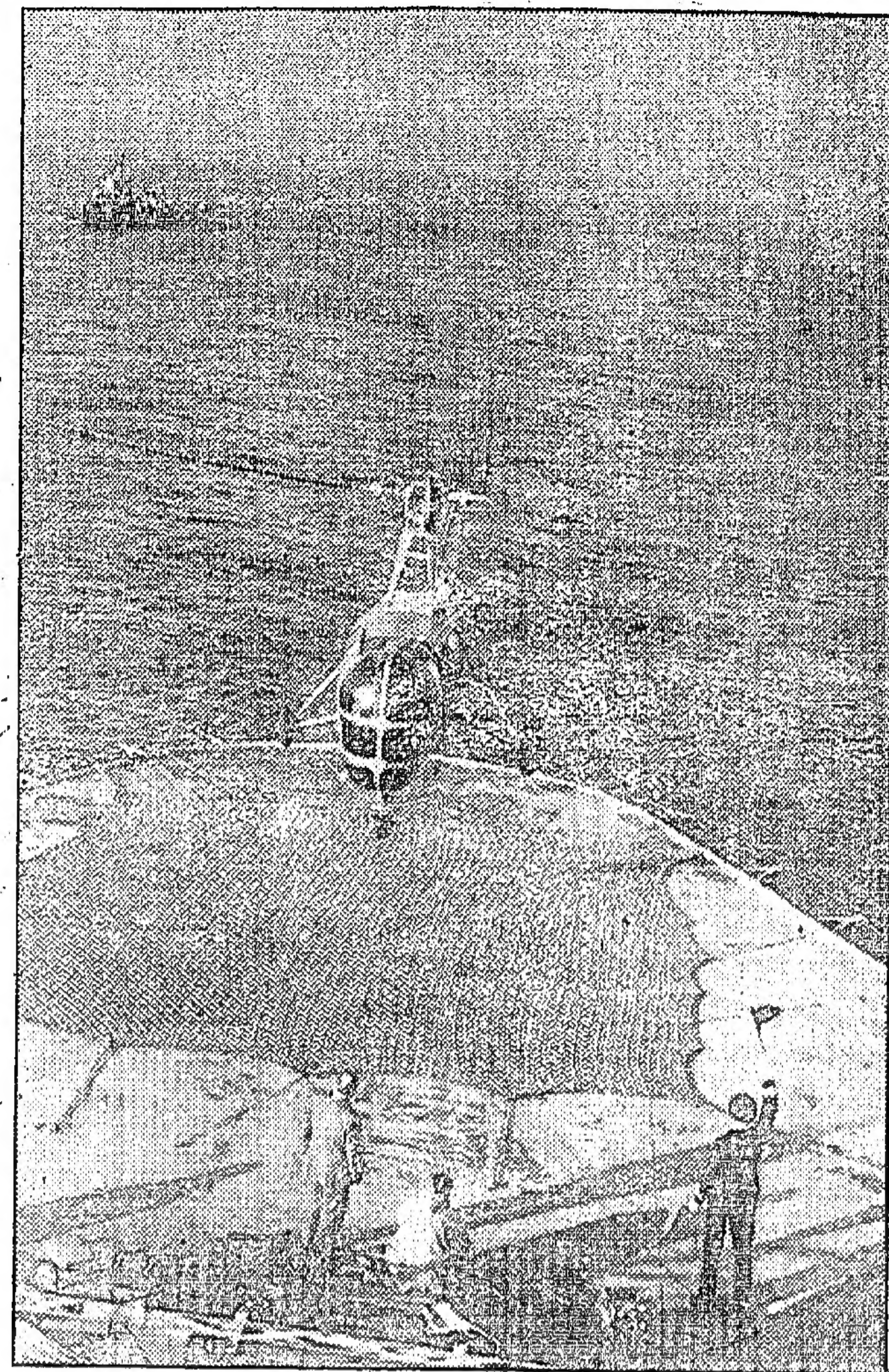
Mr. Entezam is expected to get his group to work as soon as possible, though there might be some further delay because Senor Nervo has been ill.—United Press.

Hoover Rebuked

Washington, Feb. 12.

Mr. W. Averell Harriman, President Truman's special adviser on foreign affairs, today urged the nation to reject advice from "timid voices" who doubt Western Europe's will or ability to resist attack.

While he named no names, he was presumably referring to the former President, Mr. Herbert Hoover, to Senator Robert Taft and other Republican critics of the Administration's foreign policy.—United Press.



The Royal Navy is to make greater use of helicopters for the defence of merchant ships, sea communications and anti-submarine tactics. This picture shows a helicopter about to land on the supply ship Fort Duquesne during a test off Plymouth. The "deck" is of rope netting to enable a firm grip.—Central Press.

Sapphire Jet Engines: Contract For U.S.

Flint, Michigan, Feb. 12.

The Buick division of General Motors Corporation announced today that it would build British-designed J-65 Sapphire jet engines for the Air Force under the largest single defence contract a company has ever received.

The contract, covering manufacture and acquisition of machinery to build the engines, totalled \$25,000,000.

Amounts involved in the production contract were not disclosed.

Buick will build J-65s under licence from Wright Aeronautical Corporation, which holds the American patents.

The engine will be used in the F-84 Thunderjet fighters which are the Air Force's standard ground support fighters, and also are being sent to European members of the North Atlantic treaty organisation.—United Press.

Brigadier Field

Saigon, Feb. 12.

Brigadier L. F. Field, the new British Military Attaché, arrived here yesterday by air from Singapore.—Reuter.

Stassen's Call To Republicans

Bellefonte, Feb. 12.

Mr. Harold Stassen today called on the Republican Party to give solid support to the recommendations of General Eisenhower, in key questions concerning Europe.

"If we think through the alternatives to his recommendations, we soon realise how unacceptable and dangerous those alternatives would be," he said at a Lincoln Day dinner. "The party of Lincoln should not abandon other nations in a vain grasp for non-existent security. The Party of Lincoln should, with calm courage, move forward in support of the clear course outlined by General Eisenhower."—United Press.

Britain To Save In Oil Purchases

London, Feb. 12.

Britain announced on Monday the completion of agreements with American oil companies which by 1954 will save the country \$250,000,000 per year in oil purchases.

The latest agreements, announced in the Commons by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Fuel and Power, Mr. Alfred Robens, were with the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey and the Socony Vacuum Oil Company.

Mr. Robens said that as a result of these agreements the dollars spent on oil distribute by these companies in or through the sterling area would be gradually reduced to the level of the average gross dollar value of oil produced by British companies.

In return the Government agreed to end the controversial policy of "substitution" imposed during the financial crisis in 1949. This required American companies doing business with the sterling area to buy from

British-controlled companies the latter's excess oil instead of bringing in dollar oil.—United Press.

Dockers Change Their Mind

Baltimore, Feb. 12.

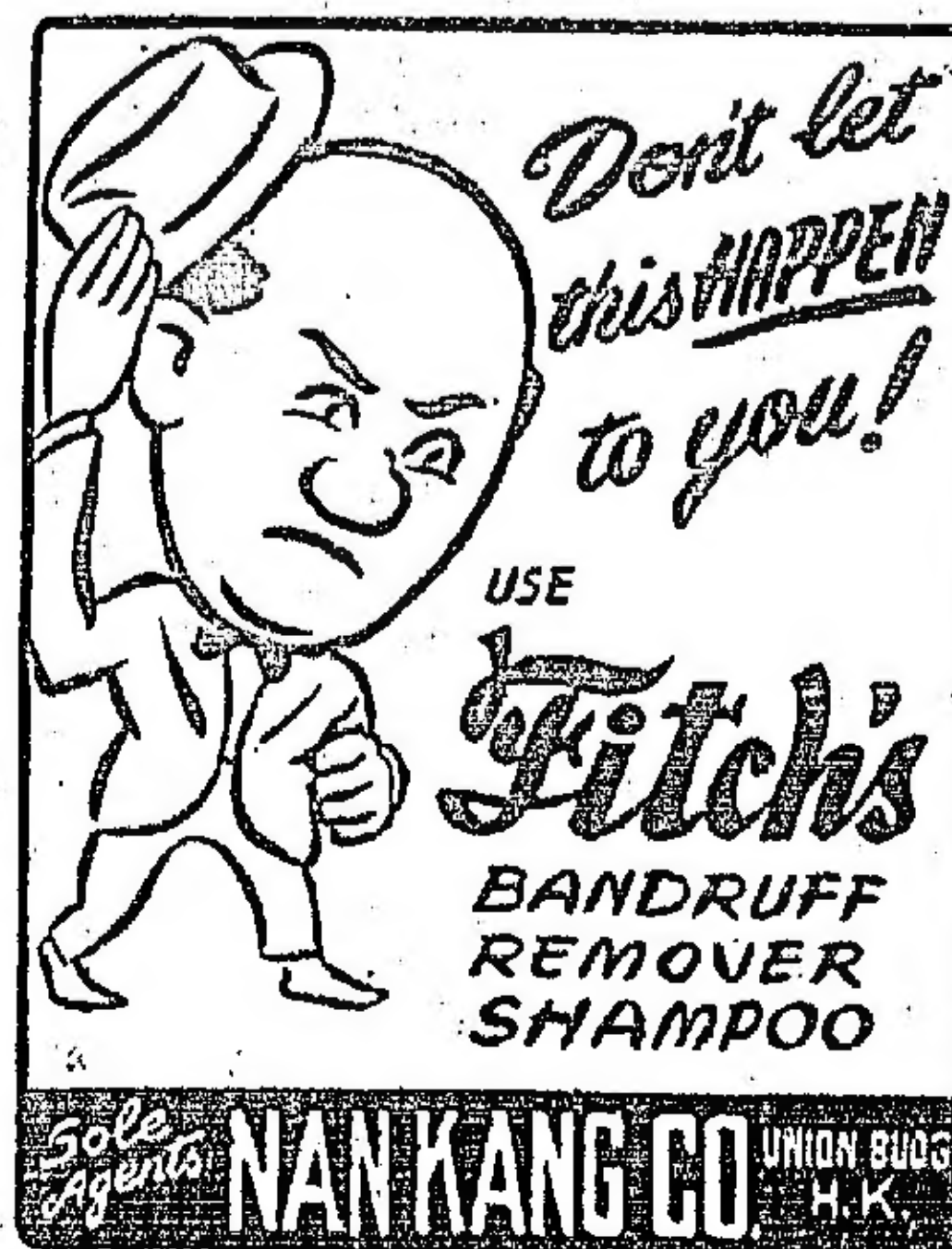
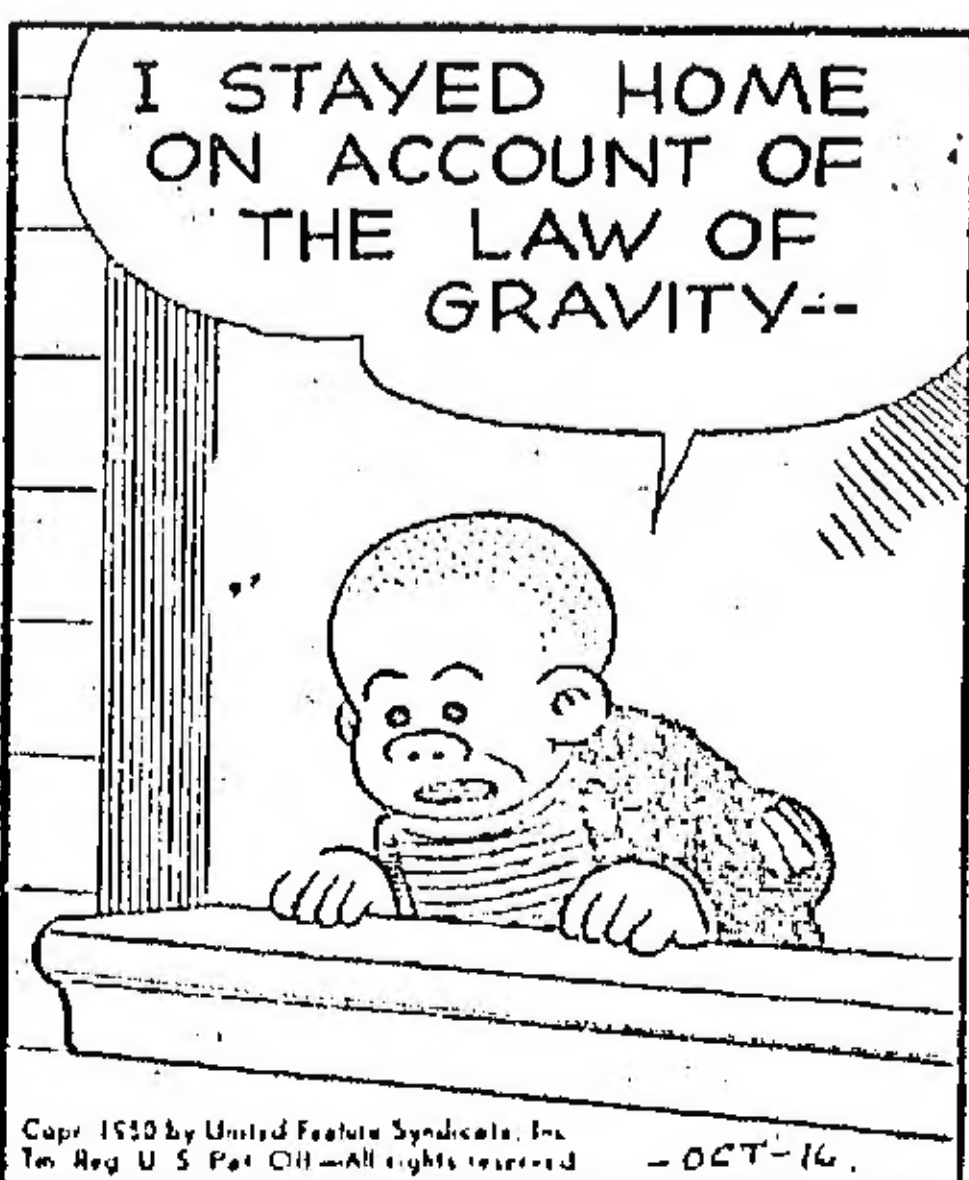
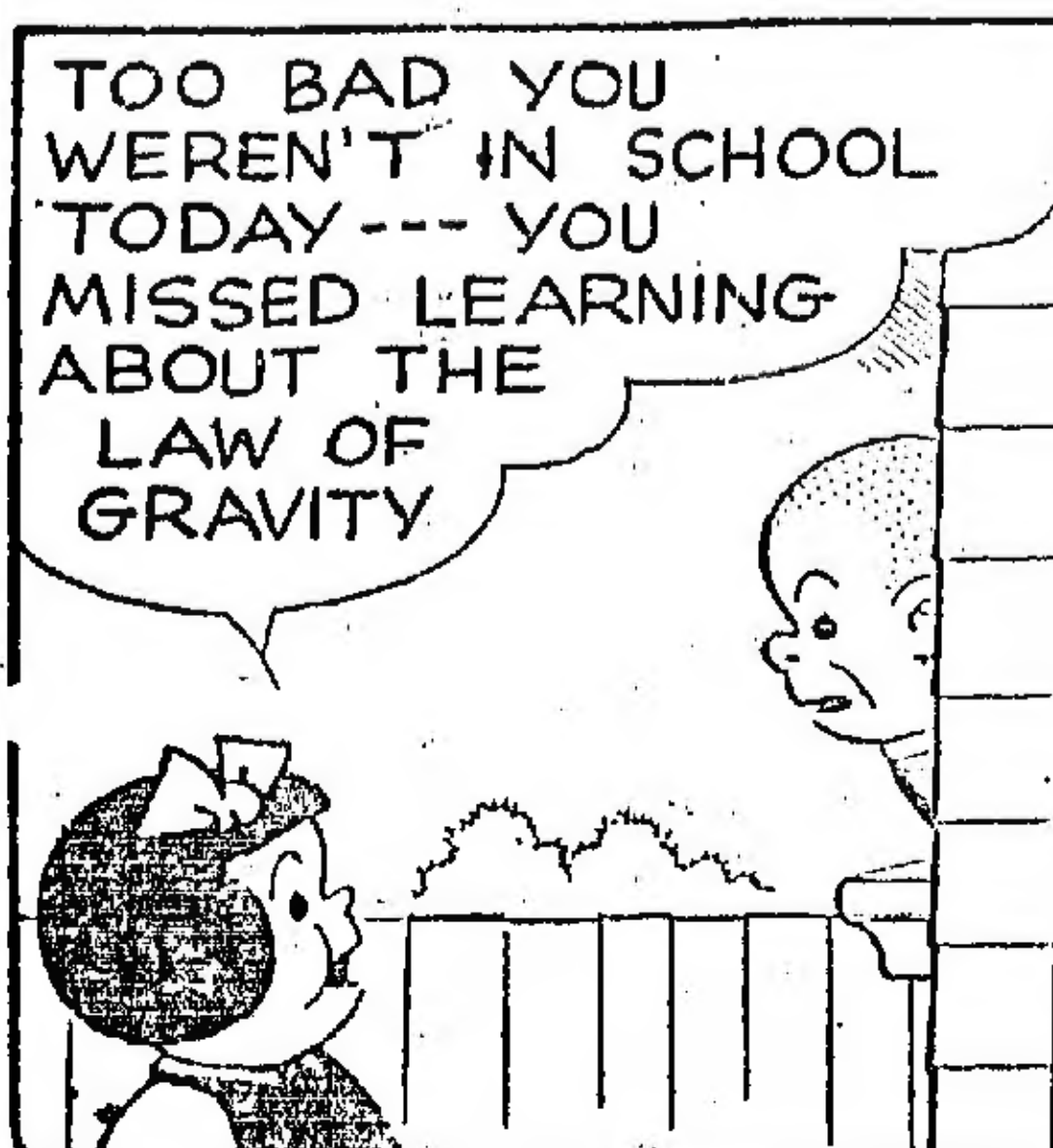
American dockers agreed to unload a cargo from China here today after the U.S. State Department said that it was vital to the American rearmament programme.

The dockers at first refused to handle the cargo—mustard seed, copperware and cotton waste—for "patriotic reasons." The cargo was carried in the 5,580-ton Norwegian freighter Lisholt.—Reuter.

NANCY

Bear Fact

By Ernie Bushmiller



SKATING TITLE FOR BRITAIN



Miss Jeanette Altwegg, of Britain (left) and the runner-up, Miss Jacqueline de Bief, of France, seen at the conclusion of the European Skating Championships in Zurich.

Amateur Club Competition Calls In A Record Entry

By Archie Quick

While the Football Association are busily engaged pruning the entries for next season's Cup Competition, and they are likely to reduce the list by at least one hundred clubs, the Amateur Cup competition has produced a record entry of 453 clubs.

Many of these clubs, for the first time in Soccer history, will be refused admission to the big national competition, and I prophesy that this barring is going to cause considerable dissatisfaction. On the other hand, the FA are contemplating the launching of an Intermediate Cup competition for non-League clubs, and amateur clubs may be allowed into this.

So far as the Cup competition proper is concerned, I feel it is hard on those clubs who year in and year out enter for the fun of the thing. After all they are the backbone of sport, these players who pay for their sport and change in all manner of dressing room accommodation. It is a moot point whether the most attractive of all knock-out tournaments should be reserved for the big League clubs. Of course, in its favour, it will obviate the congestion of fixtures.

A STEP FORWARD

The proposed Intermediate Cup is a great step forward. Its sponsors are the Midland club, Banbury Spencer, and it is going to be a great opportunity for clubs outside the League to earn income with attractive cup tie games. The time could not be more opportune, for the Southern League is in a parlous state, with Chingford out and Hastings and Dartford threatening to withdraw. Travel expense is the root trouble.

I hear there is a move afoot to cut the Southern League into Eastern and Western Sections. This would eliminate long distance travel such as Tonbridge to Llanelli or Maidstone to Merthyr, but at the same time, it is going to deprive these struggling clubs of income.

Intermediate Cup matches would therefore be the ideal

substitutes. It is not intended to debar these non-League clubs from the national competition, so, in theory, if not in practice, they would have the chance of winning both the Cups! I cannot see it happening though!

One other point. The present position whereby some clubs lose financially as a result of being drawn away to small clubs would be avoided, as every club taking part in both competitions will be guaranteed expenses if the scheme goes through.

Commonwealth Wins Fifth Test And Series

Kanpur, India, Feb. 12.

The Commonwealth touring team beat India by 77 runs in the fifth and final unofficial cricket Test here to win the series.

The tourists won the second Test and the three others were left drawn.

India, who were set to get 440 runs to win, made a determined bid on the last day of the match today, but were out just before tea for 362 runs. Vijay Merchant, the Indian captain (63 runs not out overnight) carried his score to 107 runs.

GOLF WILL MAKE A LARGE CONTRIBUTION TO FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN

Says WALTER PILKINGTON

Golf will have a large contribution to make to the sports programme of the Festival of Britain this year. Major tournaments arranged total 13, with approximately £25,000 to lure international prize seekers.

Leading United States amateurs will be at Birkdale (Lancashire) in May, for the Walker Cup match with Britain and most of them will stay on for the English open Amateur Championship at Porthcawl, in Glamorgan, South Wales. Northern Ireland will stage the Open Championship—at Portrush in July—for the first time. Many other events and tournaments have been fixed in which overseas visitors can compete.

Welcome news is that Mrs Mildred ("Babe") Zaharias, phenomenal athlete who outdrove all her rivals in winning the British women's championship in 1947 will visit Britain in July with other United States women professionals to play exhibition matches.

The winner of the 1950 Amateur Championship is to be invited for the first time to compete with 21 leading professionals in the annual "Masters" tournament on April 3 to 6. An earlier date for the first big competition of the season to

avoid a clash with the opening of the British Industries Fair in the Birmingham area on April 30, robs it of leading amateurs chosen for the Walker Cup trials and also of such star names as Britain's match-play champion and widely travelled golf ambassador Dai Rees and Max Faulkner.

BBBC Refuses To Sanction Farr-Olek Fight

London, Feb. 12.

The British Boxing Board of Control have refused to sanction the fight between Tommy Farr, former British Heavyweight Boxing Champion, and the Frenchman, Stephan Olek, which was to have been staged at Porth, in the Rhondda Valley.

Mr Albert Davies, the promoter, confirming this, said that terms had been agreed upon but the Board, although giving no reason for their refusal, apparently thought that Farr's opponent should be Reg Andrews, of London, rather than Olek.

Davies added that so far as he was concerned Andrews was not acceptable either and therefore he would not go ahead with his plans for the proposed programme.

"Farr is willing to fight anybody but who the next opponent will be I do not know," added Mr Davies.—Reuter.

James Langridge To Lead Sussex Again

London, Feb. 12.

James Langridge, the senior Sussex professional and former England Test all-rounder, has been unanimously re-elected County captain for the coming season.

Langridge, who is 44, is a useful left-hand bat and a clever left-arm slow bowler. He has achieved the "double" six times.—Reuter.

Dick Whittington's Descendant Wants A Championship

London, Feb. 12.

A direct descendant of Dick Whittington, 24-year-old Elizabeth Whittington, who is appearing in Wembley's ice Pantomime, "Dick Whittington," will compete in the professional ice-skating championships in London next April.

She won the junior amateur championship in 1939 but this will be her first professional title bid.—Reuter.

These two will not be back in time from their Australian tour. Other absentees are likely to be Fred Daly, John Panton, Ken Bousfield and Harry Bradshaw, now in the Union of South Africa and not due to leave Capetown until the end of March.

A HAPPY GESTURE

A happy gesture has made possible the continuance of the Assistant Professional Golfers' Tournament. Financial difficulties had compelled the organisers to decide to discontinue it. Revived two years ago, it resulted in a loss of £400 for the Professional Golfers' Association.

This could have been a minor tragedy for British golf. The young men who take part are the future Cottons, Wards, Dalys and Burtons. It gave them invaluable experience in testing conditions. Happily the Coombe Hill, Surrey, Club saw it in that light and has shown a splendid spirit by deciding to take over the sponsoring of the event.

What is more the £400 prize money will be raised by club members and those taking part will be the club's guests to spare them the cost of meals and refreshments. The tournament will be open to recognised assistants serving in the Forces as well as those pursuing their craft professionally.

A similar broad and public spirited step has been taken by the Birkdale Golf Club on whose course in May the British Walker Cup team hope to win the trophy from the United States for only the second time in a series started 20 years ago. Birkdale has offered honorary membership to all who have a chance of being chosen to play, which means they will be able to use the course for practice at any time.

Among noted golfers who will be in Britain for the Festival season is that virile Australian Norman von Nida. Golf needs all the forceful personalities it can get and von Nida is one of them. Australian reports say the promising Ken Nagle and Peter Thomson will accompany him to make their first tour of Britain. Arthur Walker, the Johannesburg amateur, has announced his intention of playing in as many events as possible, and other new faces from overseas are likely for what promises to be Britain's best golf season since the war.

TABLE TENNIS BOOM

The sport of table tennis is also enjoying a boom in Britain. Next to the ever popular game of snooker it is the most appealing indoor public pastime. A shortage of balls and tables is the only reason why it has not spread even more rapidly. Now facilities are more in demand than ever and recruits, inspired

by Bergmann, Leach, Simons, Barna and other experts, flow unceasingly from the younger generation. Hundreds of entries for the 1950 Metropolitan championships had to be rejected and the 800 accepted made a record total.

Fittingly the standard of British play in international events has improved as the game has grown in stature. Further proof of this advance was the triumph recently of Johnny Leach in the French singles championship for the second year in succession. He and the Gloucestershire player, Aubrey Simons, who wears spectacles without finding this a handicap, beat a number of the best exponents in Europe in progressing to what was a thrilling five-set final. Leach won the world's single title two years ago and his legion of admirers are hoping that he or Simons will retain it for Britain in the championships which start at Vienna early in March.

15 Days In Gaol For Brutal Play At Rugger

Paris, Feb. 12.

The French Appeal Court has upheld the sentence of 15 days imprisonment on Eugene Bogdanov, an amateur rugby player of the Udine Rugby Club, for injuring another player by brutal play.

An original fine of 150,000 francs had been reduced to 50,000 francs. Bogdanov injured the other player's head in a match at the beginning of the season and was ordered from the field.

He was prosecuted at the instigation of the French Rugby Federation, who banned him from the game for life. The Federation has expressed the hope that the example made of Bogdanov will discourage rough play.—Reuter.

£3,000 Offer For Featherweight Fight At Nottingham

London, Feb. 12.

The Nottingham boxing promoter, Mr Reg King, has stated that he is prepared to offer well over £3,000 to the winner of the Sandy Saddler-Willie Pep World Featherweight title fight to defend the title at Nottingham.

The winner would meet either Ronnie Clayton, the British Champion, or Al Phillips, depending on the result of their title fight on February 26.

Mr King added that the postponement of the fight, which was to have been held on Jan. 29, because Phillips had influenza, would give Pep and Saddler a chance to reply before the British title bout.—Reuter.

FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

IS INCREASED TAXATION
NECESSARY? BUDGET
SPECULATION IN LONDON

By Norman Crump

Today everyone is conscious that the growing burden of rearmament will involve greater hardships, including heavier taxation.

The main doubt left to us is how severe next April's Budget will be. Such figures as are available suggest that, granted a reasonable financial reform, the burden of next year's taxation need not be so heavy as many people fear.

Last April Sir Stafford Cripps estimated that defence expenditure of all kinds would cost £780 million for the financial year 1950-51. It is already clear that this figure will be exceeded, and it may even turn out to be something of the order of £900 million.

Of greater import, however, is the likely defence expenditure for 1951-52. Here the figure has already been cast as being likely to be high as £1,500 million. The determining factors are, first, the country's capacity to produce munitions of war with man-power to use them, and second, such aid as we obtain from the United States.

Therefore, the figure of £500 million can be no more indicative. It means, however, that total expenditure in the Budget is likely to rise by about £700 million, such economies as the Government sees fit to make elsewhere. Judged by the returns to Dec. 31 last, ordinary expenditure, before counting anything additional for rearmament, seems likely to work out at about £3,200 million. Ordinary revenue seems likely to be £3,900 million. This points to a 1950-51 Budget surplus of £700 million, less such additional cost of rearmament as arises during the course of the current financial year.

This possible surplus of £700 million compares with the Budget surplus of £443 million envisaged by Sir Stafford, however, based on his fiscal policy, not on the Budget surplus, but on "over-all surplus," arrived at after taking account of a budgetary or "below-the-line" items. The cost of these estimated by him at £450 million, and this turned a Budget surplus of £443 million into an over-all deficit of £7 million.

Proposed Reform

Now come to the proposed reform, which is based upon an assumption suggested to me by a correspondent. The net extra-budgetary expenditure can be divided into two parts—irrecoverable and recoverable. The recoverable part consists of refunds, post-war income credits and war damage payments. Last April it was estimated to cost £124 million, the remainder, amounting to £6 million, represents loans from local authorities and also various public organisations, such as the coal and cotton boards, new towns, the film corporation and those responsible for colonial development. These loans are recoverable.

Now it is very nice to feel that all these loans are being paid for out of current taxation, but this is going far beyond the demands of sound finance. In these days of inflationary strain upon the taxpayer, it would be much better to have the whole of this £326 million out of Government funds floated in the market. As for the borrowing of money, the Government has referred to above, it has to pay slightly higher interest rates if the Government was to come out

even on this operation. Thus Local Authorities have for the past three years been charged 3 per cent on 25-year loans from the Government. Under this scheme they would have to be charged 3½ per cent for loans of this duration.

We can now reconstruct the Budget. There is in sight today a Budget surplus of £700 million for the current year 1950-51. Deduct from this irrecoverable extra-budgetary expenditure, which can reasonably be assessed at last April's estimate of £124 million. This leaves a prospective surplus for this year of £576 million.

This would go a long way towards covering the cost of raising defence expenditure next year from £780 to £1,500 million. It would, in fact, leave only £144 million to be found in other ways. Now the growth in the national money income, itself a consequence of rearmament reactions upon our industries and the general rise in prices, will increase the yield of existing taxation, and so find part of this £144 million. It is conceivable that only £100 million would have to be found by new taxation.

Investor's Part

It may be argued that these proposals would place disinflation in the background and would also make new demands upon the investor. The answer to the first is that disinflation depends upon many factors, internal and external, besides the Budget. On this ground too much stress has been laid in the past upon the over-all surplus. As regards the second point, the investor, both private and institutional, has subscribed since April 1 last £350 million in cash to new Government loans. Therefore to ask him to finance annually £526 million of recoverable extra-budgetary expenditure should not be beyond his powers. Certainly he would rather invest this amount than pay it in new taxation.

LONDON TIN
MARKET

London, Feb. 12.
Prices of tin closed at the end of the afternoon session as follows:
Spot tin, buyer 1,490
Spot tin, seller 1,495
Business done none
Three-months tin, buyer 1,460
Three-months tin, seller 1,465
Business done at 1,455
Settlement —United Press.

Leipzig Spring Fair

Berlin, Feb. 12.
A Chinese trade delegation arrived in East Berlin today, the East German Trade Ministry announced. The group will visit the Leipzig Spring Fair, which opens on March 4.—Reuter.

A Famous Commander Warns
WEAKNESS QUICKEST
WAY TO WARBy Lt-Gen. Sir
Oliver Leese

I BELIEVE our country is in as great a danger now as it was in those perilous days of the Armada. I believe the danger is far greater than the threats from the Kaiser and Hitler.

I say this because it has always been best to tell the British the unwelcome facts, for better or for worse; to give him guidance on interpreting them—and then let him chew them over.

So I will add that I see no reason why Stalin should not attack us in Europe this spring, or perhaps the autumn if he prefers to wait for the harvest.

Use Monty's Method

THEREFORE I am convinced that this is no time for delay or hesitation. The best deterrent to this threat is strength and even greater strength.

Field-Marshal Lord Montgomery's method was first to study the problem that faced him, and then make a plan to meet it. We should do the same today.

We should say: "What is the greatest danger that faces us? What resources in manpower and materials do we need to meet and defeat it?"

Not till then should we decide how we can foot the bill and make the necessary sacrifices.

The situation is far too serious for any other approach to the problem.

Call-up For Industry?

If necessary we should have complete industrial mobilisation; America is already cutting down her output of peace-

time commodities and, if needs be, we must do the same. It may, too, be necessary to mobilise our manpower. As General Sir Brian Horrocks said, very aptly, the other day, it is the battalions that ultimately count in modern war just as they always did in the days of Julius Caesar, Marlborough and Napoleon.

You must have the best modern weapons and vehicles, but they are no good without the best-trained men with the highest morale to fight them. There must also be sufficient infantry divisions to back up the armoured formations.

We must ensure that our armies of the future are trained and equipped to fight under all conditions before the balloon goes up, otherwise we shall suffer once more the tragic losses in life and prestige that we did in 1940 and 1941.

Value Of The 'Z' Men

It may be necessary to call up for training the "Z" Reserve to have a few seasoned veterans to guide the youngsters. It may be necessary to make Civil Defence compulsory instead of the hollow sham it is today.

Any or all of these things involve sacrifices. Yet I believe the price must be paid if we are to be safe.

But there are people who disagree with this, who say that Russia is most likely to play a waiting game—after all she is primarily an Eastern or Asiatic Power and "tomorrow" is as good as today—may be her motto.

It can be argued that she has no reason to hurry because everything is going according to her plan.

It can be argued that with her immense armed strength in the background Russia may eventually be able to get all she wants by diplomacy and propaganda without risking ultimate defeat by going to war.

To us in Britain, after bearing the brunt of two wars, this is, on the surface, a comforting thought. We all desire peace almost more than anything in the world.

U.S. With Us This Time

BUT I believe that to accept this thesis would be to indulge in wishful thinking just as we did in the days of appeasement in 1938. And remember—today we have the immediate reaction of the United States of America to the challenge of Soviet Russia as our greatest asset—one that we did not have in 1914 or in 1939, and one which we must never let slip.

There are also people today who say that if we rearm and

put our country even on a semi-war basis we shall be playing into Russia's hands because we shall so weaken our economic structure that we shall eventually topple over an easy prey.

Cunning Propaganda

I BELIEVE most earnestly that this is a false argument. A very insidious piece of propaganda spread by the friends of Communism in order to cause disunity in the Allied ranks. It does not take into account the stark realism of the present perilous situation.

If we are weak it is asking for trouble. It will encourage the enemy to carry on his diversionary successes in the Far East and in the Middle East.

It is surely wrong to treat this vital matter as an economic problem, to think out what we can afford to do and finally decide what we should do. We must re-arm first and count the cost afterwards.

Europe Looks To Us

FOR many years now we have been the accepted leaders in Europe. Even today Western Europe looks to us once again for leadership.

Once again we must shoulder our responsibilities, sink our petty differences at home, and rise to the occasion.

The alternative is to have our homes overrun by the barbaric Tartar hordes and our families deported to the frozen wastes of Siberia.

Give our people the lead and, once again, you will not find them wanting.

STANDARD BRIDGE

By M. Harrison-Gray

Dealer: West.

Love all.

N.

♠ 8 7 5

♥ J 10 9 5

♦ A K 9 4

♣ Q 7

W.

♠ Q 9 6 2

♥ A K 7

♦ J 10 5 3

♣ K 4

E.

♠ A 4 3

♥ Q 7

♦ Q 8 7 6

♣ J 10 6 3 2

S.

♠ K J 10

♥ 8 6 4 3 2

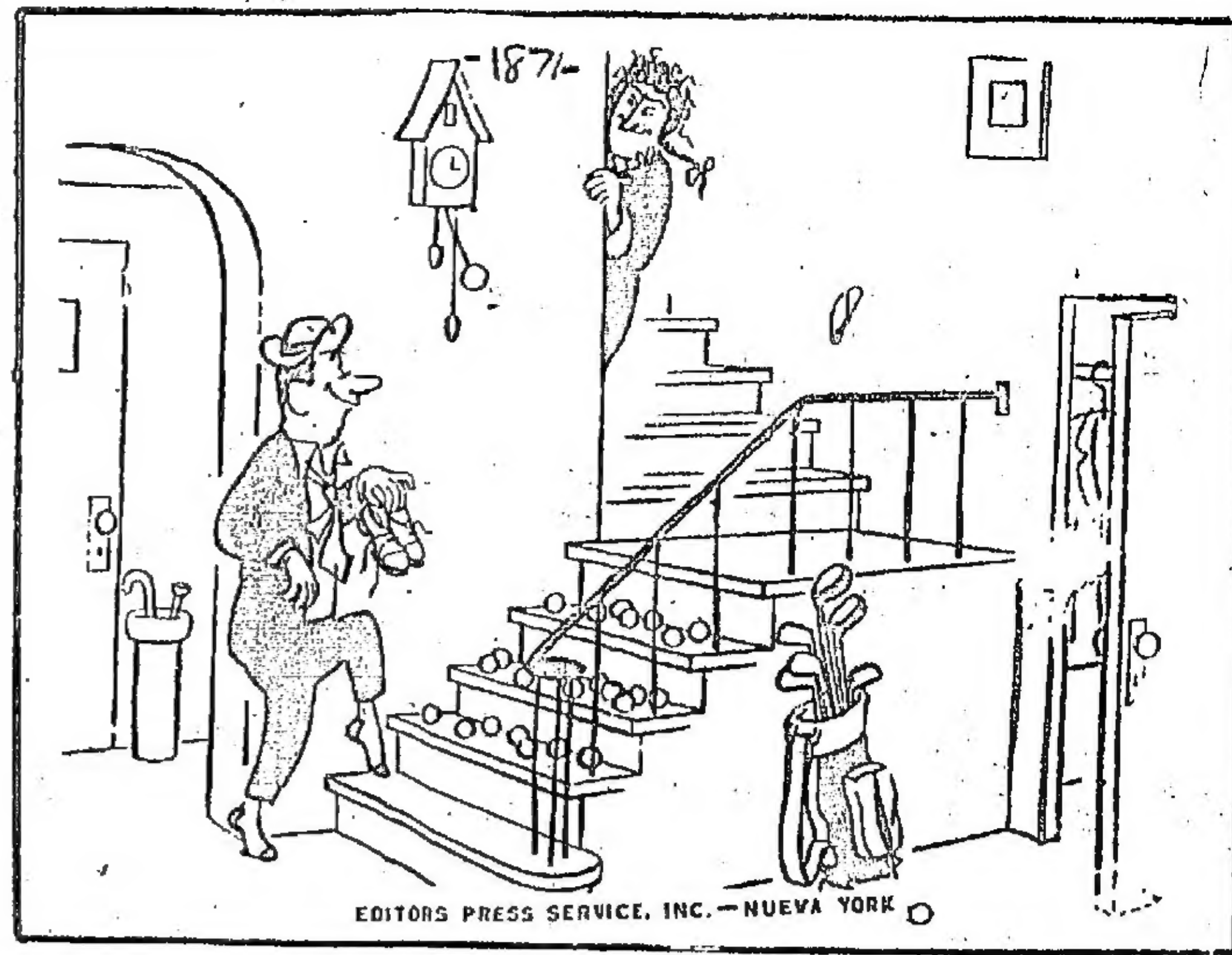
♦ 2

♣ A 9 8 5

This Prepared Club comedy occurred in the 1947 match between England and Scotland. In Room 1 the English West opened One No-Trump, playing the weak version, which was passed all round, nine tricks being made.

The Scottish sequence was One Club—One Diamond; Two Diamonds—Three Clubs; Three No-Trumps (doubled by North)—Four Clubs (doubled by South); Four Diamonds (doubled by North). Both East and West made strenuous efforts to avoid playing the hand in their declared suits. The comedy, however, nearly became a tragedy, for the English South led ♠ 3 to East's ♠ Q, and ♠ 2 was returned. South went up with ♠ A with misguided haste and shifted to ♠ J. On this defence the contract might actually have been made.

London Express Service.



COMMUNISTS' COUNTER-ATTACK

Chinese Reds And North Koreans Ram Back UN Centre

Offensive Concentrated On South Korean Troops

Tokyo, Feb. 12.

Upwards of 50,000 Chinese Communists and North Koreans today rammed back the centre of the United Nations offensive, surrounded its advanced elements and threatened to break through to the key town of Wonju.

Shattering the hopes of an easy advance by the United Nations forces to the 38th Parallel, up to six Communist divisions punched solidly at the South Korean forces thrusting up Korea's mountainous spine.

The South Koreans were sent reeling back to the town of Hoengsong, where hand-to-hand street fighting was reported as the Communists closed in on three sides.

Enemy resistance stiffened suddenly today in the west, where the United Nations forces pulled back across the Han River to the south bank under heavy pressure.

On the east coast the South Koreans crossed five miles north of the 38th Parallel.

Attacking at midnight through a heavy Allied air and artillery bombardment, the Communists had by this afternoon forced a seven-mile salient in the line between Hoengsong and Chipyong, about 20 miles to the west. Hoengsong was still in Allied hands as the second night of fighting began but the American and South Korean troops were reported to be hard-pressed.

United Nations troops also held Chipyong and the surrounding area against quickly increasing Chinese Communist reinforcements.

The Communist onslaught began soon before midnight last night when the United Nations troops, fanning out 10 miles west and northwest of Hoengsong, fell back to the city under the first blows of the Communist assault.

POSITION UNCLEAR

A 10th Corps spokesman said that there was no clear picture of the night-and-day fighting because many Communist columns had flanked and infiltrated the Allied positions and had established road-blocks in their rear.

Some United Nations forces were surrounded and cut off.

Tonight's Eighth Army communique reported one South Korean regiment to be surrounded north of Hoengsong.

After an attack down the road to Hoengsong, another Communist regiment hit the United Nations front half-way between Hoengsong and Chipyong, over-running two South Korean regimental command posts, setting up road-blocks and causing so much confusion that a withdrawal of Allied units was ordered.

An hour and a half after midnight a United States raiding force attacked Communist concentrations three miles east of Chipyong but was forced to retreat under a storm of fire.

At dawn Chipyong and the area to the east were attacked. At the same time a Communist regiment moved straight down the road from Hongchong, forcing the South Koreans into Hoengsong, where hand-to-hand fighting blazed up.

FRESH TROOPS

Chinese and North Korean Communists were later reported sending fresh troops into the battle, which again threatened to move down to the key road and rail junction of Wonju.

Wonju, commanding the whole of Korea's central communications system, is itself a heap of rubble after the fierce battles of last month.

One pilot's report said that a Communist "column" was already moving towards the Hoengsong-Wonju highway, four miles behind Hoengsong's beleaguered United Nations garrison.

An Eighth Army communique said that at least two Communist divisions were spearheading the attack on Hoengsong.

The communique added that though complete ground reports were not available, pilots' re-

ports said that large groups of Communists were moving southeast in the battle zone.

American troops attacked out of the Chipyong area against the Communists' flank.

BRITISH TROOPS GO FORWARD

The British 29th Brigade, moved forward today from reserve, were also expected to see action in this sector.

Allied warplanes hammered at Communist concentrations throughout the day.

The South Koreans, against whom the Communists have always launched their counter-offensives, went forward this time with a strong second screen of American and other Allied troops behind them to take the shock of any blows in return.

Tokyo observers recalled that General Ridgway, the Commander of the Eighth Army, launched his "limited objective" offensive with the aim of killing as many Communists as possible—not for geographical gains.

He may have accomplished his objective now by bringing the Chinese Communists and North Koreans into open battle.

It was too early to tell whether the Communist stroke was the beginning of a general offensive. The United Nations line in the central sector made a deep bulge in the Communist positions, and it was possible that the Chinese Communists, or the North Koreans may only be attempting to wipe out this bulge.

SEOUL SHELLING

There was relatively little action today on the west and east sectors.

From Seoul, and the heights around the South Korean capital, Communist mortars fired across the frozen Han River into the Allied positions on the south bank.

Further west along the Han River, enemy guns fired on United Nations troops around Kampo Airfield.

South-east of Seoul this morning, small Communist patrols tried to cross the river into the American positions but were dispersed with small-arms fire.

An Army officer who flew over Seoul today reported seeing Communist troops walking in the city's streets. Flak from Seoul's defences hit leaflet-dropping United Nations transport planes which managed to return safely to Allied airbases.

Pilots reported heavy Communist traffic on the roads between Seoul and Wonju and three new bridges—one, under water.

Fighters and light bombers claimed the destruction of 62 Communist vehicles by dusk as well as two tanks destroyed and two damaged and 450 troops killed and wounded.—Reuter.

AN ERROR

Tokyo, Feb. 13.

An Eighth Army spokesman said today that a communique announcing that South Korean troops had crossed the 38th Parallel was an error and that they had not crossed the frontier.

In Washington, the State Department again declined to say whether American forces would cross the 38th Parallel. State Department Press Officer Michael McDermott said he had noted Press reports that the South Koreans had crossed the parallel. But he knew of no decision by the United States Government on what its troops intended to do.

One reporter asked: "Has a policy decision been reached?" Mr McDermott said: "I have no comment. Your question goes unanswered."—United Press.

KIDNAP

WEDDING

DRAMA

Canea, Crete, Feb. 12.

Crete's Romeo, Kosta Kefaloyannis, today told five judges of his romantic elopement with "Juliet"—Tassoula Petrakaghiorgis—whom he married in a remote mountain monastery.

The "kidnap-wedding" nearly started a civil war in Crete. "As I could not live without Tassoula I took her in a taxi, helped by some of my friends," he said. "We were all unarmed. I never formed an armed band."

Kosta pleaded not guilty to charges that he formed "an armed band and armed resistance."

Tassoula did not attend the trial. She wrote to the Court that she wanted to prevent a "revival of animosity between my relatives and Kosta's family."

The police took strict measures to prevent disorders at the trial. As supporters of the rival families flocked into town, the police banned all carrying of arms, even by militiamen.

Kosta kidnapped Tassoula, daughter of a rich Cretan Liberal Member of Parliament, from Heraklion, took her over the inaccessible peaks of Mount Ida, defied 2,000 gendarmes chasing him and surrendered only after the monastery marriage.

Attempts to reconcile their families, made by the Bishop of Crete and leading personalities on the island, were today reported to have failed.—Reuter.

Jap War Criminals

Tokyo, Feb. 12.

Seven Japanese war criminals who completed their sentences in Burma returned to Japan today. The criminals arrived in Osaka on the Wakawa Maru.—Reuter.

Priests Expelled

London, Feb. 12.

Vatican Radio, quoting ecclesiastical quarters in Korea, said today that more than 7,000 priests, monks, missionaries and nuns had been arrested or expelled from China by the authorities.—Reuter.



TAKING IT EASY—Yolande Betze, winner of last year's Miss America contest, enjoys the sun's rays during a stay at Miami Beach. At right is her chaperone, Elise Sapp. A quick look at Yolande is sufficient to convince anyone that the judges knew what they were doing when they gave the title to this lovely young lady.

Pleven And De Gasperi Begin Talks

Santa Margherita, Feb. 12.

The French and Italian Prime Ministers and Foreign Ministers opened their three-day conference here today with what informed sources described as very general exchanges of view.

M. Rene Pleven, the Premier of France, and his Foreign Minister, M. Robert Schuman, met Signor Alcide de Gasperi, the Italian Premier, and Count Carlo Sforza, his Foreign Minister, for this preliminary discussion at the luxurious seafront Hotel Miramare.

Official quarters said that no precise order or agenda had been fixed for the talks—regarded as the most important and comprehensive between the two countries since the war.

Discussion of the principal problems, such as German rearmament and the inclusion of France's North African mineral resources in the European coal-steel pool, would not begin until tomorrow.

There will be two formal sessions of the conference tomorrow and a last one on Wednesday. Western European defence within the Atlantic Pact framework and Italian immigration to France are among the many other items being discussed.—Reuter.

Queensland Blaze

Brisbane, Feb. 12.

Twelve raging bush fires, which have swept three million acres of South-west Queensland in a week, were tonight joining up to make one vast blaze covering one-eighth of the State.—Reuter.

U.S.-Canadian Air Games

Montreal, Feb. 12.

The combined United States Air Force and Royal Canadian Air Force defence exercises have wound up with most of the action taking place along the American Eastern seaboard.

Poor flying conditions, including blowing snow and low visibility, washed out the Montreal RCAF operations of Thursday and Sunday. Air and ground activities were confined mostly to the daylight hours of Saturday.

The manoeuvres were designed by the United States Air Force to test its air defences at key industrial centres in the Eastern section of the United States and Canada.—Reuter.

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